

62 percent, and it is not indexed for inflation. So we know what the exponential growth in that tax will become for small businesses. That is an example. Ten months does not make a policy of certainty with respect to tax relief.

We need to provide continuity of that policy with respect to tax relief, and small business expensing is certainly part of it. We can expand the loan limits under the SBA's programs, and 7(a) and 504 already demonstrated they can work. They did work in the year in which we expanded those programs. It has been demonstrated nationwide and certainly conclusively in my State. So why not move expeditiously to address those issues?

Finally, we can pay for it. We can redirect the stimulus. I think that is the most conservative, effective approach to paying for this legislation because, after all, if we have only spent 30 percent of the appropriated funds under stimulus and only 37 percent overall of the stimulus, we may not even spend \$600 billion at the end of this year; we need to spend it now. That is the point, is spending it now. What are we waiting for?

There is no question that there is a sense of despair across the landscape in looking at the unemployment numbers. We are not creating jobs; we are losing jobs every month. Albeit it has improved in terms of the number of jobs lost, the fact is, we need to create millions and millions of jobs in addition to offsetting the new entrants into the market every month. We have a 9.7-percent unemployment rate. That means we have to get to work, and the only way we can do that is helping small businesses, and the only way we can do that is to put these initiatives to work before the Easter recess. Let's not delay and defer. We have time to do it now. It has broad unanimous support in the Small Business Committee. There is no reason we cannot accomplish this goal now.

I appreciate the majority leader's indication and commitment that he will bring a small business package to the floor. I urge the leader and I urge all Members of the Senate to support doing that before the Easter recess because we need to adopt it now, not months from now, because people depend on these jobs. There is uncertainty, and people are looking on their Main Streets in their communities, and what are they seeing is trouble. They are wondering whether the hardware store is going to stay open, or the barbershop. That creates either certainty or uncertainty; that is what creates either despair or hope.

So I hope we would move and that we would move with a sense of urgency with respect to small businesses. If we are depending on them, then we have to get to work now. There is no reason, no rationale, no excuse for not taking action in this Chamber in this Congress that can be signed by the President and that we can move forward on. So we

should strive with every fiber of our beings to help these longtime beacons of our economy, which is going to give hope to all Americans. What they deserve is to see action that will create the kind of certainty, give them the kinds of resources that they deserve, and do it in a fiscally responsible manner.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 53—RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO, AS THE NEW OFFICIAL SITE OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL

Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. UDALL of Colorado) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 53

Whereas in 1928, Julian Stanley Wise founded the first volunteer rescue squad in the United States, the Roanoke Life Saving and First Aid Crew, and Virginia subsequently took the lead in honoring the thousands of people nationwide who give their time and energy to community rescue squads;

Whereas in 1993, to further recognize the selfless contributions of emergency medical service (referred to in this preamble as "EMS") personnel nationwide, the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc., and the Julian Stanley Wise Foundation organized the first annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service in Roanoke, Virginia, to honor EMS personnel from across the country who died in the line of duty;

Whereas the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service is the annual memorial service to honor all air and ground EMS providers, including first responders, search and rescue personnel, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nurses, and pilots;

Whereas the annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service captures national attention by annually honoring and remembering EMS personnel who have given their lives in the line of duty;

Whereas the annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service is devoted to the families, colleagues, and loved ones of those EMS personnel;

Whereas the singular devotion of EMS personnel to the safety and welfare of their fellow citizens is worthy of the highest praise;

Whereas the annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service is a fitting reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of EMS personnel nationwide;

Whereas EMS personnel stand ready 24 hours a day, every day, to assist and serve people in the United States with life-saving medical attention and compassionate care;

Whereas the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service Board sought and selected a new city to host the annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service;

Whereas the city of Colorado Springs, Colorado, was chosen to host the National

Emergency Medical Services Memorial, the annual National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service, and the families of our fallen EMS personnel;

Whereas "Flight for Life" in Colorado was founded in 1972 as the first civilian-based helicopter medical evacuation system established in the United States;

Whereas ambulance systems in Colorado provide care and transport to approximately 375,000 residents and visitors each year;

Whereas approximately 60 percent of the licensed ambulance services in Colorado are staffed by volunteers that serve the vast rural and frontier communities of Colorado; and

Whereas the life of every person in the United States will be affected, directly or indirectly, by the uniquely skilled and dedicated efforts of EMS personnel who work bravely and tirelessly to preserve the greatest resource in the United States, the people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress recognizes and congratulates the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the new official site of the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service and the National Emergency Services Memorial.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 54—RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ORLANDO ZAPATA TAMAYO, WHO DIED ON FEBRUARY 23, 2010, IN THE CUSTODY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA, AND CALLING FOR A CONTINUED FOCUS ON THE PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS, LISTED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, IN CUBA

Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DODD, and Mr. LEMIEUX) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 54

Whereas Orlando Zapata Tamayo (referred to in this preamble as "Zapata"), a 42-year-old plumber and bricklayer and a member of the Alternative Republican Movement and the National Civic Resistance Committee, died on February 23, 2010, in the custody of the Government of Cuba after conducting a hunger strike for more than 80 days;

Whereas on February 24, 2010, the Foreign Ministry of Cuba issued a rare statement on the death of Zapata, stating, "Raul Castro laments the death of Cuban prisoner Orlando Zapata Tamayo, who died after conducting a hunger strike.";

Whereas Reina Luisa Tamayo has asserted that her son Orlando Zapata Tamayo was tortured and denied water during his incarceration and has called "on the world to demand the freedom of the other prisoners and brothers unfairly sentenced so that what happened to my boy, my second child, who leaves behind no physical legacy, no child or wife, does not happen again";

Whereas Zapata began a hunger strike on December 9, 2009, to demand respect for his personal safety and to protest his inhumane treatment by the prison authorities in Cuba;

Whereas according to his supporters, Zapata was denied water during stages of his hunger strike at Kilo 8 Prison in Camagüey, was then transferred to Havana's Combinado del Este prison, and was finally admitted to the Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital on February 23, 2010, in critical condition, where he